

Appl. No. : unknown
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a non-B, non-C, non-G hepatitis virus gene wherein PCR is performed by using the oligonucleotides ~~as defined in claim 41~~ selected from the group consisting of a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 57, a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 60, and a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 61 as primers.

43. (Original) A method for detecting a non-B, non-C, non-G hepatitis virus gene wherein PCR is performed by using an oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 57 and an oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 60, or an oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 57 and an oligonucleotide having a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 61 as primers.

44-58. (Canceled)

59. (New) An isolated non-B, non-C, non-G hepatitis virus genome comprising:

- (a) a DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 62, or
- (b) a DNA which hybridizes with the DNA of (a) under stringent conditions of 24 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5/2.4 mM EDTA/1M NaCl at 67°C.

60. (New) The genome according to claim 59, which comprises the DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 62.